



English

# SALAD

## SERIES

### Tending & Harvesting Guide

SEED KIT TYPE: \_\_\_\_\_

PLANTING DATE: \_\_\_\_\_



*W*elcome



Thank you for your purchase of our AeroGarden. We have spent years developing and refining our technology to create a growing system that assures you will have a pleasurable and successful year-round gardening experience.

I sincerely hope you enjoy your AeroGarden and sharing your healthy harvest with your family and friends.

Best Regards,

*Michael Bissonnette*

Michael Bissonnette  
Founder and Chairman  
AeroGrow International, Inc.

*W*hoever  
plants a garden  
plants happiness.

– CHINESE PROVERB

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***Quick Start Guides available at:***  
**[www.aerogardensupport.com](http://www.aerogardensupport.com)**

# PLANTING YOUR GARDEN

A little bit of care for your Garden will ensure rapid growth and bountiful harvests. You will see sprouts in 1 to 3 days. In about 3 weeks, you will experience the transformation of your seeds into salad greens ready for your table.

## *P*lant Your Garden

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Whether this is the first or fifth garden you are planting in your AeroGarden, you will need to reference your *Quick Start Guide*.

If you have planted a garden in your AeroGarden prior to this one, please refer to "*Replanting Your AeroGarden*" in the *Quick Start Guide* before you proceed.

If you no longer have your model's *Quick Start Guide*, you can obtain the latest version of it at [www.aerogardensupport.com](http://www.aerogardensupport.com)



# TENDING YOUR GARDEN

Please take a moment to review this section shortly after planting your Garden (see page 9 for *Reminders About Planting Your Garden*).

## Remove Domes

- A few days after planting your AeroGarden, tiny plants will appear through the holes in each *Seed Pod Label*. When this occurs, remove the *Domes* from each *Seed Pod* with emerging plants and discard or recycle. Do not remove the *Label*!
- To reduce plant stress, we recommend removing the *Domes* shortly after the light(s) turn off or near the end of the light cycle.
- You do not need to thin your plants as the AeroGarden can support multiple plants in each *Seed Pod*.



Each *Seed Pod Label* shows the number of days until seeds sprout.



**Don't let this happen!**  
If your plant is curled inside the *Dome*, it was left on too long. **Immediately remove Dome.**

Never remove *Labels*. They promote germination, inhibit algae growth and identify your plants.

# Add Water

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**There should always be water in the Bowl of your AeroGarden.** For instructions, see the “Add Water Using a Spouted Container” section in your *Quick Start Guide*.

- Use room-temperature water. Very hot or very cold water will hurt your plants.



- We recommend using municipal tap, bottled or purified water. Well or softened water **SHOULD NOT** be used because the extra minerals in these sources may be harmful to aeroponically grown plants.

# Feed Garden

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**Every 2 weeks you will need to add one nutrient tablet (3-pod AeroGardens) or two nutrient tablets (6- or 7-pod AeroGardens) to the Bowl.** For instructions, see “Add Nutrients” (*Feed Garden - Basic Feeding*) in the *Control Panel Features* section of your *Quick Start Guide*.



*Note: We recommend checking for bugs every time you add nutrients. See Troubleshooting on page 12 of this Guide for details.*

**Quick Start Guides available at:  
[www.aerogardensupport.com](http://www.aerogardensupport.com)**

## Raise Lamp Hood (*Light[s]*)

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**As your plants begin to grow, you should provide 1-2" (2.5-5cm) of space between the top of plants and the light(s).**

For instructions, refer to the "*Raise Lamp Hood (Light[s])*" section in your *Quick Start Guide*.

If *Grow Bulb(s)* are too close to plants, the leaves may brown and burn. If they are too far away, your plants will "stretch" toward the light(s) and look unhealthy.

## Keep Your Garden Healthy

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**Keeping a watchful eye on your Garden is not only a joy, but also a smart way to make sure your plants stay healthy.**

As your plants grow, you may see some dead or brown leaves around the base of your plants. This is perfectly normal.

- Remove these leaves with scissors or pinch off with your fingers.
- Keep *Grow Surface* clear of dead leaves.



# *P*lant Problems & Remedies

**These pictures show plants from a *Salad Series Seed Kit* that are stressed.** Follow suggestions to restore your Garden's health.



## **Wilted**

Plants are not getting enough water. Check water level.



## **Burned**

Plant is too close to *Grow Bulb(s)*. Raise the *Lamp Hood*.



## **Curled Inside *Dome***

*Dome* was left on too long. Immediately remove *Dome*.



## **Bolting**

Plant is at end of productive growth period and has long stalks growing from plant base. Harvest entire plant by cutting at base.

***Quick Start Guides* available at:  
[www.aerogardensupport.com](http://www.aerogardensupport.com)**



# HARVESTING YOUR GARDEN

## *H*arvest Your Garden – *All Salad Green Varieties*

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**After approximately 3 weeks, you can begin harvesting your Salad Garden!**

- Remove whole leaves by cutting the base of leaf with pruning shears or household scissors, or by gently pinching off with your fingers.
- Spread your harvesting evenly across your Garden.



*You can continue to harvest up to a third of the leaves every few days. Leaves will be replaced by new growth.*

- After harvesting lettuce, lower *Lamp Hood* if necessary (see *Quick Start Guide* for instructions).

*Do not remove more than a third of the leaves from any single Seed Pod at one time.*



**Quick Start Guides available at:  
[www.aerogardensupport.com](http://www.aerogardensupport.com)**

## Reminders About Planting Your Garden

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Please use the **Quick Start Guide** included in your original AeroGarden box for more detailed setup instructions. If you no longer have your *Quick Start Guide*, you can find the latest version of it at... [www.aerogardensupport.com](http://www.aerogardensupport.com).

### Setting up Your Garden

- 1 Is the *Lamp Arm* firmly inserted into the *Base*?
- 2 Are *Grow Bulb(s)* firmly inserted into *Lamp Hood*?
- 3 Is *Lamp Cord* plugged into *Lamp Hood*?
- 4 Is *Bowl* securely placed in *Base*\*?
- 5 Is there water in *Bowl* up to "Fill To Here"?
- 6 Is *Lamp Hood* at lowest setting?

### Planting Your Garden

- 7 Is there a *Seed Pod* in every *Grow Surface* opening?
- 8 Did you put a *Dome* on each *Seed Pod*?

- 9 Did you add *Starting Nutrient* tablet(s)?
- 10 Did you record planting date on the cover of this Guide?

### Starting Your Garden

- 11 Did you plug in AeroGarden?
  - Are *Grow Bulb(s)* on?

### Replanting Your Garden (if this is not your first planting)

- 12 Did you reset the nutrient timer on your AeroGarden? (See "Replanting Your AeroGarden" in *Quick Start Guide*.)

\* If your AeroGarden has an *Air Hose*, connect it to the *Bowl* at this time.

## Questions & Answers – Light(s)

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### **Do I need to turn light(s) on and off manually?**

No. Your AeroGarden includes a built-in timer that turns your light(s) on and off at specific intervals. These intervals are designed to maximize the growth of lettuce plants. The timing system started as soon as you plugged in your AeroGarden.

### **Does it matter what time of day the light(s) go off?**

No. It makes no difference to the plants when your light(s) go on and off. Some people like to have them turn off when they go to bed and come on in the morning when they wake up. Others prefer to use the AeroGarden as a nightlight.

### **Can I change the time of day the light(s) go OFF?**

On select models – yes. If it is possible to change the time your light(s) go off, instructions will be found in a section titled, “*Personalize Your Light Timer*” in the *Quick Start Guide*.

**Quick Start Guides available at:  
[www.aerogardensupport.com](http://www.aerogardensupport.com)**

## Set Your Light Timer

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**Your AeroGarden has light(s) and a built-in timer that automatically provide your plants with the optimal amount of light needed to grow an abundance of healthy greens.**

If the option is available to set the light timer\* on your AeroGarden, you will find instructions in the “*Personalize Your Light Timer*” section of your *Quick Start Guide*.

*\* Not available on all AeroGarden models – consult Quick Start Guide – available at [www.aerogardensupport.com](http://www.aerogardensupport.com).*

# Troubleshooting

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## What do I do when a *Grow Bulb* burns out?

Replacement bulbs can be ordered from your retailer or at [www.aerogardensupport.com](http://www.aerogardensupport.com).

## What should I do if my *Grow Bulb(s)* aren't working?

Make sure *Grow Bulb(s)* are firmly inserted in the *Lamp Hood*. Also check that your Garden is plugged into a working electrical outlet and the *Lamp Cord* is plugged into the *Lamp Hood*.

## What if I want to move my Garden to another location?

Go right ahead! Keep in mind that each AeroGarden model has different features. Unplugging a Garden in the middle of its growth cycle could cause your AeroGarden's light timer to reset. *Before moving your AeroGarden, consult your Quick Start Guide to see how light timer is affected when your model is unplugged.*

To move your AeroGarden, be sure to pick it up by holding the *Lamp Arm* with one hand and sliding your other hand under the bottom of the *Base*.

## My Salad Garden doesn't look healthy. What can I do?

If you are concerned about the health of your Garden, please go through the following...

- Keep light(s) as close to plants as possible, without leaves touching the *Grow Bulb(s)*.
- Replace *Grow Bulb(s)* every 6 months (see *Quick Start Guide* for model-specific instructions).
- Follow the harvesting instructions on page 8.
- Don't use softened or well water.
- Make sure your garden is in a location that is not too hot (70°F or 21°C maximum).
- Only harvest up to 1/3 of each *Seed Pod* every few days.

### **What if I see bugs?**

Although leafy green plants are rarely attacked by bugs, it is good to know what to do just in case.

If you see bugs, they probably found their way into your home by hitching a ride on clothing or cut flowers. They are clever about hiding under leaves and in the joints between leaves and plant stems, so they can be difficult to see at first.

Initial signs that you have bugs are either your plants look unhealthy or you may see a sticky substance on your AeroGarden's *Grow Surface*.

This is the easiest way we've found to get rid of bugs:

- 1** Unplug AeroGarden and remove the *Bowl* from the *Base*.
- 2** Carefully lift entire *Seed Pod* and plant out of the *Grow Surface*.
- 3** Turn plant upside down in a sink and gently run room temperature water over the underside of leaves to rinse bugs off.
- 4** Check your plant for any remaining bugs – rinse again if necessary – and then return plant and *Seed Pod* to the AeroGarden.
- 5** Check all surrounding plants to make sure bugs haven't spread. If they have, follow the above steps with any other buggy plants.
- 6** Replace *Bowl* on *Base* and plug in AeroGarden.

### **How do I take care of my Garden when I go out of town?**

Add water to raise the level up to "Fill To Here." A newly planted Garden with *Domes* removed may not need care for up to 2 weeks. However, if your Garden is mature and you will be out of town

*Continued on next page*

## Troubleshooting *(Continued)*

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for several days, we recommend that you make arrangements for someone to care for your Garden while you are away.

You may want to set your light(s) to go on at night for added home security while you are away. If this option is available, it will be in the “*Personalize Your Light Timer*” section in your *Quick Start Guide*.

### **What do I do when my Garden has completed its growth cycle?**

For step-by-step instructions regarding the care of your AeroGarden after plants have stopped growing, refer to the “*Prepare for your Next Garden*” section in the *Quick Start Guide*.

**Quick Start Guides available at:  
[www.aerogardensupport.com](http://www.aerogardensupport.com)**

## Replace Bulb(s)

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**Grow Bulb(s) should be replaced after 6 months of use.** See “*Replace Grow Bulb(s)*” in your *Quick Start Guide* for replacement instructions.

*Replacement bulbs can be ordered from your retailer or at [www.aerogardensupport.com](http://www.aerogardensupport.com).*



*The* **AeroGarden**<sup>™</sup>  
AeroGrow International, Inc.

**Quick Start Guides available at:**  
**[www.aerogardensupport.com](http://www.aerogardensupport.com)**